

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00321 302325Z

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INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 321

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM SGEN CI

SUBJ: CHILE'S PARTICIPATION IN UN COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT (CSD)

1. AT 24TH SESSION OF UN COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN
NY, JAN 6-24, 1975 CHILE, ONE OF THE 32 MEMBER STATES
COMPRISING CSD, WAS REPRESENTED BY GREGORIO AMUNATEGUI,
A LAWYER IN PRIVATE PRACTICE. AMUNATEGUI HANDLED CHILE'S
POLITICAL IMAGE DEFTLY. ALTHOUGH HIS PARTICIPATION WAS VERY
LOW-KEY, HE WAS PRESENT AT
ALMOST EVERY MEETING AND MADE
SOME VERY RELEVANT INTERVENTIONS. ALSO INTERESTING TO NOTE
WAS FACT THAT LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES CHOSE AMUNATE-
GUI AT FINAL MEETING TO THANK CHAIRMAN AND BUREAU FOR THIER
WORK DURING SESSION.

2. THE ONLY TIME DURING CSD SESSION THAT THE SOVIETS (JOINED BY
THE UKRAINE AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA) PURSUED THEIR CAMPAIGN AGAINST
CHILE ON POLITICAL GROUNDS, WAS WHEN THEY OBJECTED TO CHILE BEING
A COSPONSOR OF A RES ON THE RIGHTS OF THE DISABLED. ON THIS OC-
CASION AMUNATEGUI DID NOT REPLY AGGRESSIVELY OR DEFENSIVELY BUT
CLAIMED COSPONSORSHIP ON PURELY HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS. UK AND US,
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PAGE 02 USUN N 00321 302325Z

AS COSPONSORS, OBJECTED TO SOVIET OBJECTION AND ISSUE SOON DROPPED

WITH CHILE STAYING ON AS COSPONSOR.

3. AT AMUNATEGUI'S REQUEST US REP (PICKER) LUNCHEDED WITH HIM BEFORE HE LEFT THE COUNTRY "FOR EUROPE ON BUSINESS." HE MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. HE WAS CLOSE TO THE JUNTA, EXPECIALLY GENERAL LEIGH, AND ADVISED HIM ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS.

B. THEY CONSIDERED THE CSD MEETING AS A TRIAL FOR SPEAKING SOFTLY AND NOT AGGRESSIVELY. HE FELT THE ABSENCE OF HOSTILITY TOWARDS CHILE CONFIRMED THE SOUNDNESS OF HIS ADVICE TO THE JUNTA THAT IT IS TIME FOR CHILE TO IMPROVE ITS IMAGE ABROAD.

C. HE IMPLIED THAT CHILE'S PRESENT PER REP AND AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON WERE OF A MILITARY MENTALITY AND HOPEFULLY WOULD BE REPLACED.

D. HE HOPED THAT CHILE'S SUCCESS IN CSD COULD BE RELAYED TO SANTIAGO SO THAT HIS ADVICE THE JUNTA WOULD BE LISTENED TO MORE CLOSELY.

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